

A Quarterly Newsletter Of



recycle@townofnorthandover.com
www.townofnorthandover.com/recycle
Summer 2007



Town of North Andover Recycling Information 2007-2008

For Residents with Municipal Trash Collection

Curbside Collection Information

Paper

Place in Paper Bag

- Newspapers/inserts
- Magazines, catalogs
- Phone books, junk mail
- Office paper
- Paperboard (cereal, cracker boxes) — Remove plastic liners.
- Corrugated cardboard—Flatten, fold or cut to less than 30" x 30"
- Shredded paper
- Brown paper bags
- **NO** plastic bags

Containers

Place in Bin

- Glass bottles/jars, all colors and sizes
- Aluminum/tin/steel cans and lids
- All plastic containers labeled
- **NO** cans or bottles containing paint, aerosol, or hazardous materials
- **NO** window glass
- **NO** plastic bags
- **NO** other metal items
- **NO** Styrofoam



Drop-Off/Special Collections

CFL, Other Fluorescent Bulbs, Mercury Devices (Drop-Off)*

- All fluorescent light bulbs
- Glass fever thermometers
- Thermostats, etc.

Large Appliances (Curbside)

- Washers, dryers, refrigerators, stoves, dehumidifiers
- Call (978) 685-0950.
- Remove doors.
- Fee: \$25, \$30

Household (Drop-Off)

- Clean clothing
- Books

Electronics (Drop-Off)*

- TVs, computers
- Fee: \$5, \$15

Paint Items (Drop-Off)*

- Oil-based paint, stain, varnish
- Fee: \$3 per gallon can

Yard Waste (Drop-Off)

- Tues., Thurs., and Sat., 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. — Cyr Recycle Area, Sharpners Pond Road

- Leaves and grass are free.
- Permit/fee for other yard waste

Christmas Trees (Curbside)

- Remove tinsel, twine, and ornaments.
- Collection first two weeks of January

Auto Items (Drop-Off)*

- Car batteries — \$2
- Motor oil — 50¢

Bulk Items (Curbside)

- Large metal items
- By appointment only, call (978) 685-0950.
- Fee: \$25

Scrap Metal Recycling (Drop-Off)*

- Old gas grill (propane tank removed)
- Metal desks or shelving
- Metal shed, etc.
- Ferrous and non-ferrous

*3rd Saturday each month, 9 a.m. to noon

2007-2008 Curbside Recycling Calendar

JULY 2007							AUGUST 2007							SEPTEMBER 2007						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31					29	30	31					29	30	31				
OCTOBER 2007							NOVEMBER 2007							DECEMBER 2007						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31					29	30	31					29	30	31				
JANUARY 2008							FEBRUARY 2008							MARCH 2008						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31					29	30	31					29	30	31				
APRIL 2008							MAY 2008							JUNE 2008						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31					29	30	31					29	30	31				

□ = WHITE WEEK □ = BLUE WEEK □ OR □ = SATURDAY COLLECTION □ = HOLIDAY □ = 3rd SATURDAY DROP-OFF

Schedules

Curbside Recycling Collection Schedule

Recycling is collected every other week on your regular trash day, Monday through Friday. Blue week residents have their recycling collected on weeks shaded in blue. White week residents have their recycling collected on weeks that are not shaded. Check Curbside Recycling Information at www.TownofNorthAndover.com/recycle for street listings.

Holiday Schedule

When a scheduled collection day falls on a holiday, that day's collection and all remaining collections for the week will be delayed one day. Friday's collection will be on Saturday. Holidays are red. (See calendar.)

Drop-Off Recycling

DPW Garage Facility, 384 Osgood Street, North Andover. No restriction for hours or days of operation.

Hazardous Waste Event

Saturday, October 27, 2007, and Saturday, April 19, 2008, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Compost Bins

\$20. Call (978) 685-0950.

Did You Know?

Massachusetts prohibits the disposal of the following items:

- Paper and Cardboard
- Bottles and Cans
- Leaves and Yard Waste
- Car Batteries
- TVs and Computers
- Large Home Appliances
- Products Containing Mercury

Be sure to keep these items out of your trash by recycling them! This newsletter tells you how.

Thank You!

Last year, you and other residents of North Andover recycled more than 4.7 million pounds of material, a 27% increase from the previous year! By doing this, North Andover saved the equivalent of:

447,100 gallons of gasoline

30,600 trees

And recycled enough plastic bottles to make 12,000 fleece jackets.



For more information, call (978) 685-0950 or visit www.TownofNorthAndover.com/recycle.

10 Tips for summertime shopping

Ahhh...summertime. Family vacations, lounging by the pool, picnics with friends, and back-to-school shopping. Whether you're getting ready for school yourself, getting someone else ready for school, or just taking care of your own summer shopping, there are things that you can do before, during, and after your shopping trip to reduce your waste, improve our environment, and save money, too.

1. Clean out your closets and cabinets. If you are sending a student off to college, you may find that you have plenty of towels and sheets without buying new ones. If you're sending a student back to school, you might discover unused notebooks, pens, and pencils or remember that last year's backpack is in great shape. If you're shopping for housewares, garden supplies, or even food, you may learn that what you need is already sitting on your shelf!
2. Organize what you already own. We've all watched those organization shows on TV. How many times have you watched someone find more than one iced-tea maker or enough white T-shirts or tank tops to clothe everyone on the block? While most of us aren't quite that organization-challenged, we often have some area—a junk drawer, a pantry shelf, or a laundry room

closet—that could use some attention. When you organize what you have, you'll find things you can still use. This is also a great way to find the stuff you no longer want that you could sell or give away.



3. No matter where you are shopping, plan ahead and make a list. Going to the hardware store? Make a list. Going to a clothing store? Make a list. We all know that we make fewer impulse purchases at the grocery store when we shop from a list—the same is true at other kinds of stores, as well.
4. Shop for reused items first. Before you hit the mall, check the neighborhood garage sales or stop by thrift stores or secondhand shops. You can find clothes, shoes, appliances, books, toys, games, office supplies, household goods, and more.
5. Look for recycled-content products. Since it is back-to-school season, paper is a great place to start. The average American uses 660 pounds of paper each year. Recycled-content notebooks, loose-

leaf paper, and printer paper are readily available, high-quality, and cost-competitive. Making new paper from recycled paper creates 74 percent less air pollution and 35 percent less water pollution than making the same paper directly from trees. And don't forget recycled-content tissues and paper towels. These items are often on school supply lists. You'll be teaching a great lesson to the whole class by sending recycled-content tissues or paper towels to school.

6. Paper isn't the only recycled-content product, of course! Look for pens, pencils, scissors, rulers, file folders, binders, storage containers, jewelry, and outerwear, such as fleece pullovers and scarves, to name just a few. If you don't find recycled-content alternatives, tell the store manager that you want them. The store may be able to order them for you now or stock them in the future.
7. Select durable, reusable products that also reduce your waste or energy use at home. For example, if you have a drying rack, you won't need to use your dryer and you might be able to avoid the iron, as well. When you purchase electrical appliances or electronics, look for the Energy Star label, which guarantees you an energy-efficient product. Choose reusables, such as refillable mugs and insulated cold cups. Many stores will refill your mug or cup—sometimes at a slightly discounted price.
8. Shop for food and flowers at Farmers Markets. These markets provide fresh food without extra transportation or excess packaging. Wouldn't it be nice to enjoy fruits and vegetables without throwing away a lot of plastic bags and containers? National Farmers Market Week is August 5-11, so go out and show your support for our



local farmers. For more information about Farmers Markets or to locate them here or as you travel, go to www.ams.usda.gov/farmersmarkets/.

9. Avoid non-recyclable packaging. Know what to recycle so that you can select products packaged in locally recyclable containers as you shop. Remember—the word “recyclable” on a package doesn't necessarily mean that we accept the item in our local recycling program.
10. Say “no thanks” to overly packaged items. Ask yourself, “If I buy this item, how many layers of packaging are going to go straight into my trash or recycling?” If your answer is more than two, see whether an alternative product is available that has less packaging.



Learn more! Do more!

Buy Wisely, a program of the Center for the New American Dream
www.NewDream.org/buy

Greener Choices: Products for a Better Planet, a project of Consumer Reports
www.greenerchoices.org

The Green Guide, a service of National Geographic
www.thegreenguide.com



Get Reel

A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken.

James Dent

A gas-powered lawn mower, with its noise and noxious fumes, can certainly take the shine off a perfect summer day. However, there is a mower that will keep your lawn trimmed and still allow you to enjoy the birds and the breeze—a reel mower.

A reel mower is a manual lawn mower. Unlike the reel mowers of 50 years ago, today's reel mowers are lightweight and easy to push. Here are just a few of the great reasons to use a reel mower:

- Reel mowers leave behind healthier grass plants because they “snip” the

grass, cutting it in the same way that a pair of scissors would. (Powered rotary mowers actually tear the grass blades.)

- Reel mowers don't need gasoline, so an empty gas can will never change your plans.
- Reel mowers produce no harmful emissions and emit no exhaust into your face and your neighborhood's air.
- It goes without saying that reel mowers are whisper quiet, allowing you to hear your children playing and enjoy the birds chirping. You can still listen to your MP3 player, but you won't have to!
- Users get to enjoy a brisk walk and some resistance training.
- Reel mowers are virtually maintenance-free. Occasionally, the bearings and cutting edges may need a little lubricant and a slight adjustment. The cutters will need to be sharpened every couple of years.

You'll never struggle with the pull cord on a reel mower. Simply start walking and the mower starts, too. Reel mowers take less space in the garage or shed and take less of a bite out of your budget.

A reel mower isn't right for every yard. The mowers are best suited to smaller yards, such as those that are 10,000 square feet (about one-quarter acre) or less. Many of today's yards are no bigger than this.

As yards have gotten smaller, reel mowers have begun to make a comeback. An estimated 350,000 reel mowers were sold in the U.S. last year—up from about 100,000 five years ago. About two-thirds of the customers purchasing reel mowers are women.

If you'd like more information about reel mowers, ask at your hardware store, garden center, or home supply store. You can also learn more at www.cleanairgardening.com/reellawnmower.html, www.planetnatural.com, www.reelin.com, or www.reelmowerguide.com/.



NO IMPACT MAN

A New York man and his family are in the middle of a year-long experiment. Their goal is to find ways to create no net environmental impact. This means giving up most activities and habits that create negative impacts and offsetting the ones they can't give up with positive changes, such as cleaning out closets and giving away reusable clothes and books, volunteering for beach cleanups, and planting trees.

Having dubbed himself "No Impact Man," Colin Beavan, his wife, small daughter, and dog began their adventure last November in stages. Stage 1 was to eliminate garbage by avoiding disposable products and giving up everything that had packaging. Stage 2 added a twist, creating the least amount of environmental impact in selecting and preparing food for baby, dog, and parents. Stage 3 takes the next step, finding ways to reduce consumption to only what is absolutely necessary and then learning how to make or

acquire those things most sustainably. At each stage, the challenges increase.

Friends have questioned whether No Impact Man and his family have any hope of accomplishing their goal while living in New York City. They claim he'd be better off living in a rural area where gardening and composting are more convenient. However, Beavan responds, "The fact is that if city dwellers can't learn to live without reducing their ecological footprint, then we're in deep trouble because most of the world's population now lives in cities." In the United States, more than 68 percent of Americans live in cities with populations greater than 50,000.

No Impact Man records his trials and errors in a blog, inviting dialogue with people from around the world. In his blog, he muses on everything from plastics to finding a garden plot to composting toilets. Beavan is writing a book, which will be published in 2009, about his fam-



ily's year-long experiment. A documentary is also being produced. Read more about this family's adventures in no-impact living at www.noimpactman.com.

If you're interested in the experiments of other families trying to create a more positive impact, visit www.pathtofreedom.com. This website is devoted to the Dervaes family's "urban homestead" on a 1/5-acre urban lot in Pasadena, California.

QUOTES REQUOTED

My mind is conditioned to believe that if I can't have it right now—RIGHT NOW!—then I'm deprived. [But] is being able to have something at a moment's notice real progress?

Colin Beavan
Author and "No Impact Man"

Books for a better world

Take a couple of college friends, piles of textbooks, and a need for cash, and what do you get? In the case of roommates Xavier Helgesen and Christopher "Kreece" Fuchs, the answer was to sell the books online and to begin selling books for others. Within a year, they had organized a campus-wide book drive, collecting over 2,000 books for reuse and raising \$8,000 for an after-school reading program sponsored by the University of Notre Dame.

With help from a third former roommate, Jeff Kurtzman, Helgesen and Fuchs decided to take the good idea and turn it into a business, which is how Better World Books was born. The business, founded in 2003, assists colleges and universities, as well as libraries, in organizing book drives, selling reusable books, and donating a portion of the proceeds to literacy organizations.

To date, more than 900 colleges and universities and 500 libraries have taken part, collecting over 3 million books

weighing more than 8 million pounds. Many of the books would have otherwise ended up in landfills, but not with Better World Books in charge. Some of the books are sold through the company's

Room to Read, National Center for Family Literacy, and Worldfund. All of the books that cannot be sold or reused are recycled.

Describing itself as a "for-profit social venture," Better World Books earns money by the sale of reusable books. However, financial profit isn't the only motive; the company also strives to generate a "social profit" by contributing to improvements in literacy in the U.S. and around the world. Since its

inception, Better World Books has donated \$1.3 million to 70 non-profits that promote literacy and education. The non-profits are usually selected by the organizations running the local book drives. More than 450,000 books have been donated to Books for Africa and the National Center for Family Literacy. In addition, over \$475,000 has gone back to the college and university service clubs and library volunteer organizations that have run the book drives.

For more information about Better World Books, visit www.betterworldbooks.com or e-mail info@betterworldbooks.com.



website, www.betterworld.com, and others are sold through other online book-sellers, such as Amazon.com. Reusable books go directly to the partner literacy organizations, including Books for Africa,



BetterWorld
BOOKS

WHAT'S UP?

Once again, we sold out of the discounted rain barrels received through the MassDEP grant. We had several residents who were purchasing them as gifts. How cool is that! One resident said he had to hide the last edition of "One Person's Trash..." from his wife because the rain barrel he purchased was a birthday surprise.



Please stop by and see us at the Fourth of July Festival. We'd love to talk to you!

The Recycling Committee will have an information booth at the Festival. We will also have water conservation devices for free, compost bins and kitchen scrap bins for sale (\$20 and \$3, respectively), and red recycling bins for sale (\$3).

We also like to hear new ideas about recycling and other waste reduction efforts. Come tell us what's on your mind.



We are ahead of Andover in the Change a Light campaign challenge! For the latest results, as well as stream-lined registration, check the League of Women Voters website, www.lwv-andovers.org/. It is not too late to take the pledge!

Don't forget—compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) and other fluorescent tubes and bulbs should NOT go into the trash because they contain small amounts of mercury. They can be recycled on the 3rd Saturday of each month at the DPW between 9 a.m. and noon.



The public space recycling containers, which we ordered through a MassDEP grant, have arrived! Be on the lookout for these recycling containers at the High School, Middle School, and other recreational areas around town.



We want your suggestions, questions and comments!

NASWAC

c/o Department of Public Works

384 Osgood Street

North Andover, MA 01845

(978) 685-0950

recycle@townofnorthandover.com

www.townofnorthandover.com/recycle

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70% POST-CONSUMER NEWS
CONTENT, USING SOY INKS

*Please recycle this publication
after you have read it!*

How are the schools doing with recycling?

The Town of North Andover received a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) this past year to provide assistance in evaluating recycling programs in all of the schools. MassDEP's Regional Recycling and Municipal Assistance Coordinator, Carolyn Dann, has been visiting each school with one of the parents to meet with the Principal and custodian and look at the recycling program. The report will be available for review by the Recycling Committee, DPW, School Department, and other members of the "team." The report includes some suggestions on ways to increase the amount recycled. All schools are doing some recycling now, and all parties are willing to take steps to do more:

- The schools are willing to start collecting bottles and cans, if they are not doing so already.
- The School Department is willing to continue to encourage principals and teachers to maximize use of the existing recycling system and to recycle every scrap of paper possible.
- The DPW is willing to provide additional recycling totes and additional collection stops during the busy weeks just before school vacations and at other times, as needed, and to arrange for new cardboard dumpsters where warranted.
- Custodians are willing to put out cardboard alongside the recycling or



A decorated recycling collection container at the High School



The High School Media Club, which includes (left to right) Ricky Flanagan, Brian Donegan, Bryan Driscoll, and David Duong, put together a short video on how the school's recycling program works.

start using a separate cardboard dumpster, if they are not doing so already.

- Kitchen staff are willing to rinse and recycle cans and recycle cardboard.
- Parent volunteers are willing to help with encouragement and problem-solving as needed.
- The High School Media Club has put together a short video showing how the schools are doing their recycling and what happens to it after it's collected. It will premiere on the Cable Access Media channel the first week of July. Check the listings for exact times.

To keep the programs visible and sustainable over the longer term, there are some additional steps where the Town and Schools could use some outside help.

- Each parent-teacher organization could establish an "environmental point person" to partner with the school and help provide outside resources and encouragement. Having a permanent position would ensure that there is someone each year to see that recycling receives attention and to help problem-solve as needed.
- Ideally, each school would be paired with a local business or resident who would be available each week to weigh the barrels of recyclables. This has been very successful in a neigh-

boring town. Tracking and reporting results back to each school is very important and could allow the schools to apply for awards from various recycling organizations.

- To keep recycling in mind, teachers, especially art, music, and media teachers, could focus projects around developing good eye-catching signs for recycling barrels in the cafeteria, decorating recycling bins, or making up recycling-related music, videos, poetry, or songs.

After the paper is captured for recycling, one of the largest sources of trash is in the cafeteria. Waste from lunches, including the polystyrene trays and the food brought from home, is easily two-thirds or more of the trash from the schools. Parents can re-examine what and how they send lunches in to school. An easy option is to consider using reusable lunch bags or boxes and food containers. The DPW and School Department may want to look into the possibility of using biodegradable trays, cutlery, etc., and then composting the cafeteria and kitchen waste. That is an option that would take a lot of planning and will not happen soon but may be an option for the longer term.

Meanwhile, remember that recycling takes only a little effort but makes a big difference, in terms of resources and tax dollars, when it involves thousands of students!

What an Earth Day!

What a perfect day to collect litter! The 5th Annual Earth Day Cleanup was a wild success. More than 150 people signed up ahead of time and adopted areas around town. On the day of the cleanup, at least another 75 checked in, picked up supplies, and hit the streets.

This year we'd like to say a special thanks to one of our youngest teams—the team from Woodlea Village. This is the second year in a row that Recycling Captain Angela Mandalinci has organized her neighborhood's children for this community service event.

"Saturday was perfect to pick up trash," Angela said. "The kids were very excited to help again. It's so eye-opening for them; it was great to hear them talking during the pickup, not understanding why people would throw away trash in the woods."

Well, we don't get it either! Maybe



At the Earth Day Cleanup, we had several young volunteers from Woodlea Village (left to right): Max Garcia, Jessica Wu, Lexi Garcia, Madison Mandalinci, Taylor York, Sherissa Wu, and Clarence and Cassidy Yeh.

we should resurrect the "Don't Be a Litter Bug" campaign.

A BIG thank you to the Woodlea Village team, to Angela for organizing them, to Wheelabrator for donating the roll-off containers, to Wild Oats for donating fruit, water, and other snacks, and to the rest of the 200+ volunteers

STAPLES®
The Office Superstore

Staples makes it easy for customers to recycle e-waste by simply bringing their used computers, monitors, laptops, printers, faxes, and all-in-one machines to any U.S. Staples store, including the North Andover store. All brands will be accepted, regardless of whether or not the equipment was purchased at Staples. There is a fee of \$10 per large item. Staples is working with Amandi Services, one of the country's most experienced and innovative electronics recyclers, to handle recycling of the equipment.

For more information, go to the Town's recycling page, www.townofnorthandover.com/recycle, and click on "Other Recycling Programs."

who came together to make North Andover a little more beautiful this spring. Community at its finest!